

# Important Advances in Clinical Medicine

## *Epitomes of Progress -- Pediatrics*

*The Scientific Board of the California Medical Association presents the following inventory of items of progress in Pediatrics. Each item, in the judgment of a panel of knowledgeable physicians, has recently become reasonably firmly established, both as to scientific fact and important clinical significance. The items are presented in simple epitome and an authoritative reference, both to the item itself and to the subject as a whole is generally given for those who may be unfamiliar with a particular item. The purpose is to assist the busy practitioner, student, research worker or scholar to stay abreast of these items of progress in Pediatrics which have recently achieved a substantial degree of authoritative acceptance, whether in his own field of special interest or another.*

*The items of progress listed below were selected by the Advisory Panel to the Section on Pediatrics of the California Medical Association and the summaries were prepared under its direction.*

Reprint requests to: Division of Scientific and Educational Activities, 693 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102

### Dialysis and Homotransplantation In Children

For a number of years after the initiation of hemodialysis and renal transplantation there was a widely held prejudice against using these procedures for infants and children. During the past three to four years, the experience from several centers indicate that the pediatric patient is a favorable recipient in spite of special problems imposed by the necessity for immunosuppression during the period of growth and maturation.

A review of the survival data in patients under 16 years of age receiving consanguineous renal transplants indicates that the one-year survival is approximately 80 percent, which is similar to the experience in adults receiving kidneys from related donors. The results of the reported studies therefore indicate that renal homotransplantation is an acceptable therapeutic procedure for end-stage renal disease in children. Special attention, however, must be given to the psychologic, social, and emotional aspects of patient care in a program for renal homotransplantation in children.

FRED G. SMITH, JR., M.D.

#### REFERENCES

- Fine RN, Korsch BM, Stiles Q, et al: Renal homotransplantation in children. *J Pediatr* 76:347-357, Mar 1970  
Lilly JR, Giles G, Hurwitz R, et al: Renal homotransplantation in pediatric patients. *Pediatrics* 47:548-557, Mar 1971